

to support the rule. The majority is trying to bring the budget to the floor so that the debate we have already heard, some good introductory discussions in this past half-hour, can come to full-blown debate under the conference rules on the floor of the House. So I am going to ask everybody please to support this rule so we can in fact get on with the budget debate tomorrow.

I think that I have heard some concern that was a little puzzling, a lot of conference discussion about this particular budget, which my colleague from New York says is being rewritten by the other body as we speak. If that in fact is the case, then why are we debating a document that is not going to be relevant?

□ 1745

So it seems to me that we should have focused our remarks on the expedition that the majority is trying to bring forth, and that is a journey to the budget debate as quickly as possible in the broad daylight on a beautiful day in Washington, tomorrow, Wednesday, May 9.

I think that those who are still talking about being deprived of the opportunity to see the budget, whether it is the budget we are going to see or not, need to remember that they have had 4 days over the weekend, and indeed, it sounds as if some members have spent some time, and that is useful.

Those who would say that the majority has not been particularly apt or particularly fair in this process are entitled to their opinion, but I think those that come to Washington to look for perfection ought not to be the ones who cast the first stones. I am reminded that I am human and I readily admit I make errors, and I have machines in my office that jam occasionally, they are called copy machines, and if members have copy machines that do not jam, I would like to know what the brand is, because most every brand I have tried jammed, and that, in fact, is what happened. We had a jammed copy machine, and in our interest to try and get the debate started, we were not prudent enough to catch the fact that there were still two pieces of paper caught in the copy machine. We did catch it; but we just did not catch it immediately, so we misfiled.

I know that error takes place, and I do not want to be the one to cast the first stone; but since the stone has been cast, I generally remember in my earlier term here, I think it was back about 1992, there was an embarrassing moment when the present minority was in the majority when somehow or other we lost track of \$25 billion worth of Russian aid and the Speaker of the House went through a very considerable scramble to get it back. I do not recall us making a Federal case out of that, and I think that we solved that problem.

I also believe this problem is a much more minor problem; this only involves

perhaps giving the opportunity of Members 4 more days to review what might, in fact, be our budget document for budget debate.

So I think that we have come out ahead on this. Whether that was by design or by circumstance does not matter. We, in fact, are going to have a good chance to debate this budget; and everybody is going to have a chance to see what is in it.

But all of that is not relevant to what is before us, which is the rule to get on with the same-day provision that will allow us to get on to debating the budget. So without further comment on the fact that I think we have had an interesting preview of what might come in a budget debate, I would urge that we support this rule; and then the Committee on Rules will soon bring another rule which will also get us that much closer to the budget debate. So, if my colleagues will support that rule as well, we will then have two good rules in place to get us to the budget debate tomorrow; and we can vote on the budget rule tomorrow and then on the conference report, if all goes well.

Having said that, I urge the support of all my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GUTKNECHT). The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this resolution are postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 49 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

□ 1801

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY) at 6 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.

HONORING NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 108.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 108.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WAIVING A REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO THE SAME DAY CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED BY THE RULES COMMITTEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of agreeing to the resolution, House Resolution 131.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 214, nays 200, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 100]

YEAS—214

Aderholt	Crane	Green (WI)
Akin	Crenshaw	Greenwood
Armey	Culberson	Grucci
Bachus	Cunningham	Gutknecht
Baker	Davis, Jo Ann	Hansen
Ballenger	Davis, Tom	Hart
Barr	Deal	Hastings (WA)
Bartlett	DeLay	Hayes
Barton	DeMint	Hayworth
Bass	Diaz-Balart	Hefley
Bereuter	Doolittle	Herger
Biggert	Dreier	Hilleary
Bilirakis	Duncan	Hobson
Blunt	Dunn	Hoekstra
Boehlert	Ehlers	Horn
Boehner	Ehrlich	Hostettler
Bonilla	Emerson	Houghton
Bono	English	Hulshof
Brady (TX)	Everett	Hunter
Brown (SC)	Ferguson	Hutchinson
Bryant	Flake	Hyde
Burr	Fletcher	Isakson
Burton	Foley	Issa
Buyer	Fossella	Istook
Callahan	Frelinghuysen	Jenkins
Calvert	Gallegly	Johnson (CT)
Camp	Ganske	Johnson (IL)
Cannon	Gekas	Johnson, Sam
Cantor	Gibbons	Jones (NC)
Capito	Gilchrest	Keller
Castle	Gillmor	Kelly
Chabot	Gilman	Kennedy (MN)
Chambliss	Goode	Kerns
Coble	Goodlatte	King (NY)
Collins	Goss	Kingston
Combest	Graham	Kirk
Cooksey	Granger	Knollenberg
Cox	Graves	Kolbe